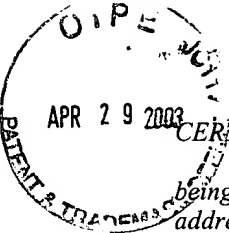


3641.

A-67587-1/AJT/MSS (468330-1208)



CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on April 22, 2003

Signature: _____

Kari Bateman
Kari Bateman

#26
5-2-03
DRS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:
Karabeyoglu, et. al.

Application No. **09/505,516**

Filed: **February 17, 2000**

For: **HIGH REGRESSION RATE
HYBRID ROCKET
PROPELLANTS AND METHOD
OF SELECTING**

Examiner: **Miller, Edward A.**

Art Unit: **3641**

Date: **April 22, 2003**

RECEIVED
MAY 01 2003

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

GROUP 3600

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is hereby submitted in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98 and pursuant to Applicant's continuing duty under 37 CFR 1.56 to bring any information which may be material to patentability of this application to the Examiner's attention.

Applicant makes no representation that a complete search has been conducted by the Applicant, or that there is not possibly more relevant art. Applicant also makes no representation that the information submitted herewith is in fact material.

Applicant wishes to make known to the USPTO a letter Applicant received from David S. Jacobson of Gordon & Jacobson, P.C. dated February 26, 2003 and addressed to Applicant's attorney of record (copy of letter attached). In this letter Mr. Jacobson informs Applicant of U.S. Patent No. 5,715,675 (the '675 Patent), and in particular draws Applicant's attention to col. 18, lines 15-24 of the '675 Patent. Mr. Jacobson does not represent Applicant. Mr. Jacobson appears to have filed a third party Submission of Prior Art statement in the USPTO on February 25, 2003 (copy attached). The '675 Patent was not known to Applicant until receipt of Mr. Jacobson's letter.

Applicant lists the '675 Patent on the attached PTO 08A form and provides a copy of the reference attached hereto. The subject application is believed patentable over the '675 Patent. The '675 Patent is directed to a hybrid rocket system with an integrated motor. In particular, the hybrid rocket motor has an oxidant tank communicating with a combustion chamber containing a solid fuel grain. The passage from the oxidant tank to the combustion chamber is obstructed by a fill tube which fills the oxidant tank with oxidant and pressurizes the oxidizer tank, as necessary. After the tank is full and as part of the launch sequence, the fill tube is displaced from the tank-chamber passage to deliver oxidant to the grain and initiate the combustion process. (col. 2, lines 42-51).

At col. 18, lines 15-24 of the '675 patent, materials useful as a fuel grain are disclosed. The '675 Patent states that these may include non-polymerized hydrocarbons, for instance, paraffin and solidified kerosene. (col. 18, lines 21-23). Applicant respectfully submits that the '675 Patent does not disclose or suggest any particular composition or method of combusting as claimed in the subject application, and that the subject application is patentable in view of the '675 Patent.

Consideration of the foregoing plus the prompt return of a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 with the Examiner's initials in the left column in accordance with MPEP 609 are respectfully requested.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(4); accordingly, no fees are required. However, in the event any fee is deemed necessary, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 50-2319 (Order No. A-67587-1/AJT/MSS (468330-1208)).

Respectfully submitted,

DORSEY & WHITNEY LLP



Maria S. Swiatek
Reg. No. 37,244

Date: April 22, 2003

Four Embarcadero Center, Suite 3400
San Francisco, CA 94111-4187
Telephone: 650-494-8700
Facsimile: 650-494-8771

APR 29 2003

PTO/SB/08A (02-03)

Approved for use through 04/30/2003. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/505,516
Filing Date	Feb. 17, 2000
First Named Inventor	Karabeyoglu et al.
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	

Sheet	1	of	1
-------	---	----	---

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

Examiner
Signature

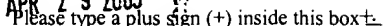
Date	
Considered	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.



U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

1056155